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IMMEDIATE
REVIEWED BY Tunkley DATE 10/9/80
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED X RELEASABLE X
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

1. We recognize importance providing more ~~effective~~ means of exchanging information on US/ARVN operations in sanctuary areas and in turn obtaining better information from FANK on its operations. We thus propose that a qualified officer from MACV (not of General officer rank nor well-known to press) visit Phnom Penh soonest on TDY to DATT to brief you and DATT and in turn to brief and exchange information with selected FANK officers. He would, of course, travel in civilian clothes and would not think it wise for visit to take place until after departure of Lowenstein and Moose. We would expect and hope that this could develop into an informal operational liaison between MACV and FANK for as long as circumstances require. The officer would, of

DRAFTED BY:	DRAFTING DATE	TEL. EXT.	APPROVED BY
J-U.Alexis Johnson:elm	5-5-70	22471	Under Secretary Johnson

CLEARANCES:
EA-Mr. Marshall Green
S/S- Mr. Brewster
JCS-General Wheeler

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course, have no rpt no advisory capacity or role to FANK, but hopefully he would be in position of passing on to FANK suggestions on operations that would enable FANK to best complement US/ARVN operations in sanctuary areas.

2. In meanwhile we will continue to appreciate receiving everything that you and your Attachés can learn and pass on to us on a continuing basis re FANK utilization of equipment being delivered to them and on deployment and performance of Khmer Kron. GP-1.

END

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Phnom Penh 759
5-5-70

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ACTION EA-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 IO-13 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-04 NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 UPW-01 AID-28 RSR-01 /132 W
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O P 051200Z MAY 70
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 686
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DJAKARTA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
USUN 55
CINCPAC 188
DIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION ONE OF TWO PHNOM PENH 759

CINCPAC FOR POLAD AND J-2

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

SUBJECT: CAMBODIAN SITREP

1. IN OFFICIAL GOC COMMUNIQUE ON PRESIDENT NIXON'S SPEECH (PHNOM PENH 749), IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT THERE IS NO REFERENCE TO US/ARVN BORDER OPERATIONS. MENTION IS ONLY MADE OF THE "MEASURES TAKEN" AND THAT "ONE OF THESE MEASURES" CONCERNED US AID. THE QUESTION OF THE US/ARVN ACTIONS IS HOWEVER TREATED IN A COMM-UNIQUE OF THE HIGH COMMAND OF CAMBODIAN ARMED FORCES.

(1)

2. THAT COMMUNIQUE, PUBLISHED IN MAY 5 AKP, NOTES THE ENTRY OF AMERICAN AND SVN TROOPS INTO TWO FRONTIER ZONES OF CAMBODIA IS AN EFFORT TO CLEAR OUT NVN AND VC WHO HAD OCCUPIED AREAS FOR AT

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LEAST THREE YEARS. IT STATES THAT THESE COMMUNIST TROOPS HAD OCCUPIED AREAS FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS. IT STATES THAT THESE COMMUNIST TROOPS HAD OCCUPIED THIS TERRITORY WITH SECRET BLESSING OF PRINCE SIHANOUK AND THE AREAS UNDER ALLIED ATTACK ARE THOSE WHERE THE HEADQUARTERS, PRINCIPAL LOGISTICAL BASES AS WELL AS THE SITE OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE NLF ARE FOUND. THE COMMUNIQUE INDICATES THAT PLANS OF ATTACK AND OF SUBVERSION UPON CAMBODIA WERE MADE IN THESE HEADQUARTERS AS MUCH AS THEY HAD BEEN FOR SVN IN THE PAST. THE COMMUNIQUE GOES ON TO NOTE THAT ALLIED OPERATIONS NOT ONLY USEFUL TO EASE PRESSURE ON AMERICAN/SVN FORCES BUT ARE ALSO INDISPENSIBLE FOR REMOVING THE ENEMY FROM CAMBODIA.

3. COMMENTING ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CAMBODIA, THE HIGH COMMAND COMMUNIQUE NOTED THAT GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST TO CERTAIN FRIENDLY COUNTRIES FOR ASSISTANCE WAS BEING FULFILLED, ESSENTIALLY WITH ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

4. THE COMMUNIQUE CALMLY REPORTED ENTRY OF KHMER KROM TROOPS INTO CAMBODIA "AS COMPATRIOTS WHO VOLUNTEERED TO JOING THEIR COUNTRY AT THE MOST SERIOUS MOMENT IN ITS HISTORY." THE COMMUNIQUE NOTES THAT THE TRANSPORT OF THESE TROOPS HAD BEEN EFFECTED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF "FRIENDLY COUNTRIES", CONSCIOUS OF THEIR DUTY TO ASSIST A NEUTRAL COUNTRY INVADED BY THE IMPERIALIST VIET CONG AND NORTH VIETNAMESE.

5. MILITARY PRESS BRIEFER THIS MORNING INDICATED THAT ROUTE 1 FERRY CROSSING ON MEKONG AT NEAK LEUNG AS WELL AS AREA EAST OF FERRY PRESENTLY IN VC/NVA HANDS. BRIEFER WAS LESS CERTAIN ABOUT SITUATION ON WEST BANK, WITH SEVERAL CORRESPONDENTS AVERRING THAT THE VC WERE IN CONTROL AT LEAST 8 KILOMETERS TO THE NORTH OF FERRY CROSSING. (COMMENT: BRIEFER OBVIOUSLY 24 HOURS BEHIND EVENTS AND CORRESPONDENTS KNOW IT.)

A. IN PREY VENG PROVINCE DURING THE NIGHT OF MAY 4-5, VC/NVA ATTACKED CAMBODIAN POSITIONS AT DANMAK CHANG EUR. NO FRIENDLY LOSSES WERE SUSTAINED AND ENEMY CASUALTIES UNKNOWN.

B. DURING NIGHT OF MAY 3-4 BRIDGE AT PREY KOMPANG WAS SABATOGED BY THE VC/NVA. ALSO DURING NIGHT OF MAY 3-4 VC/NVA HARRASSMENT ACTIONS OCCURRED AT CHOEUNG TUK (2 KILOMETERS NORTHEAST OF PREY

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VENG.)
D. MILITARY BRIEFER INDICATED IN QUESTIONING THAT ROAD TO KOMPONG SOM (SIHANOUKVILLE) WAS OPEN. (CORRESPONDENTS AT BRIEFING EXPRESSED THEIR OBJECTIONS TO NOT BEING PERMITTED TO ENTER POCHENTONG AIRPORT MAY 4 AS WELL AS INTERRUPTION OF THEIR CABLE TRAFFIC.)

6. DEFENSE MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE DATED MAY 4 INDICATES THAT NIGHT MAY 2-3 VC/NVA WHO ATTACKED DISTRICT CAPITAL OF NEAK LEUNG RECEIVED AID AND ASSISTANCE FROM VC AGENTS AND LOCAL VIETNAMESE IN SURROUNDING HAMLETS. COMMUNIQUE STATES THAT RECOGNIZED AMONG ENEMY DEAD WERE VIETNAMESE FROM BANAM AND NEAK LEUNG WHO HAD JOINED THE ATTACKERS. WOUNDED COMMUNIST SOLDIER CAPTURED ON THE MORNING OF MAY 3 CONFIRMED TO CAMBODIAN FORCES THAT ADVANCE ELEMENTS OF VC/NVA HAD INFILTRATED NEAK LEUNG AND BANAM SOME DAYS EARLIER IN PREPARATION FOR THE ATTACK. DURING THE TIME WHEN THESE AREAS WERE UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE ENEMY, ACCORDING TO THE COMMUNIQUE, LOCAL VIETNAMESE SYMPATHIZERS RECEIVED MUNITIONS FROM THE VC/NVA. AGAIN ACCORDING TO COMMUNIQUE, A LARGE PORTION OF THE VC/NVA FORCES THAT OCCUPIED NEAK LEUNG HAS MOVED AFTER LEAVING A HOLDING FORCE AT THE EAST BANK FERRY SITE, SOUTH ALONG THE MEKONG TO THE AREA OF PEAM CHOR ALONG THE VIETNAMESE-CAMBODIAN FRONTIER. COMMENT: SOME CORRESPONDENTS OPINIONS WERE EXPRESSED THAT THE VC/NVA FORCES WITHDREW SOUTH TO REINFORCE ITS BASE AREAS IN KOH SAMPEOU DISTRICT FOR EXPECTED ALLIED INCURSIONS.

7. ALSO PUBLISHED IN AKP MAY 5 IS A "CALL TO OUR FIGHTERS" WHICH ASKS ALL CAMBODIANS TO KEEP THE VC BUSY " ANOTHER TEN DAYS, TO KEEP THEM FROM SLEEPING AND EATING BECAUSE THEY WILL BE ALMOST CERTAINLY COME TO THE END OF THEIR ABILITY TO FIGHT." THE APPEAL NOTES THAT ASSISTANCE IS COMING FROM EVERYWHERE "PARTICULARLY OUR BROTHERS FROM KAMPUCHEA KROM WHO COME EN MASSE TO ENLIST." THE STATEMENT ALLOWS HOWEVER THAT FRIENDLY LOSSES WILL CONTINUE TO BE SERIOUS WITH MURDER, ASSASSINATION, RAPE, BURNING, DESTRUCTION, THEFT, ETC., BUT NEVERTHELESS WAR INDEMNITY WILL BE EXACTED.

8. MININFO STATEMENT PUBLISHED
IN AKP TOOK TO TASK RED CHINESE
PRESS AGENCY "HSINHUA" FOR FALSE STATEMENTS CONCERNING PERSECUTION OF CHINESE RESIDENTS IN CAMBODIA. MININFO COMMUNIQUE INDICATED THAT THE ONLY PERSECUTIONS THAT TOOK PLACE WERE IN THE IMAGINATION OF THE PROPAGANDISTS OF "HSINHUA" AND THAT THIS IS ONLY A

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MANEUVER USED TO DISRUPT THE CORDIAL RELATIONS WHICH HAVE ALWAYS EXISTED BETWEEN CAMBODIANS AND THE CHINESE COMMUNITY.
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ACTION EA-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 IO-13 UPW-01 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-04 NSAE-00 NSC-10

P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 AID-28 RSR-01 /132 W
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O P 051200Z MAY 70
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 687
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DJAKARTA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
USUN 56
CINCPAC 189
DIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L FINAL SECTION OF TWO PHNOM PENH 759

9. DURING THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 4, GVN DELEGATION, LED BY MINISTER TRAN NGUON PHIEU, VISITED TAKHMAU, KANDAL PROVINCE TO VISIT VIETNAMESE CITIZENS NOW BEING HOUSED IN A REGROUPMENT CENTER. MINISTER PHIEUX TOLD HIS CAMPATRIOTS ABOUT THE GVN/GOC ARRANGEMENTS CONCERNING THEIR REPATRIATION TO SOUTH VIETNAM. WHEN ASKED BY PHIEU WHETHER OR NOT THEY WISHED TO RETURN TO VIETNAM ALL OF THE CITIZENS SIGNALED THEIR DESIRE TO GO. THE GVN DELEGATION ACCORDING TO AKP BROUGHT A NUMBER OF SUPPLIES AND MEDICINES TO ALLEVIATE INITIAL DIFFICULTIES OF SHORT FOOD SUPPLIES AND OTHER LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS CAUSED BY OVERCROWDING OF REGROUPMENT CENTER. CAMBODIAN AUTHORITIES IN CONJUNCTION WITH CATHOLIC MISSION HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTING FOOD SUPPLIES. AKP STRESSED THAT MEDICAL AID WAS ALSO AVAILABLE ON A DAILY BASIS.

10. (A) LOCAL LANGUAGE PRESS PRAJOCH KHMER (PUBLIC INTEREST) ASKS RHETORICAL QUESTION "CAN WE LOSE BEFORE ACTUALLY GOING TO WAR".

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NEWSPAPER DISCUSSES PYSWARFARE WAGED BY VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS AND ASKS THE PEOPLE NOT TO LISTEN TO IT.

(B) PRAJOCH KHMER ALSO REPORTS LON NOL INTERVIEW WITH CBS AND BBC REPORTERS WHEN LON NOL STATED HE UNDERSTANDS PRESIDENT NIXON'S WISHES FOR CAMBODIA TO BUILD UP ITS OWN FORCES AND HAVE CAMBODIA REMAIN NEUTRAL.

(C) NOKOR THOM STATES MAY 5 THAT RED CHINA, VC AND VIET MINH HAVE DESTROYED THE NEUTRALITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CAMBODIA, BY INVADING CAMBODIA AND SUPPORTING SIHANOUK. NOKOR THOM PRAISES PRESIDENT NIXON FOR HIS COURAGE IN DECISION TO CONFRONT "IMPERIALIST COMMUNISM IN INDOCHINA".

(D) SOVANN PHOUM (GOLDEN COUNTRY) REPORTS 650 COMMUNISTS KILLED, 200 CAPTURED IN THE FISH HOOK OPERATION. US/SVN LOSSES LISTED AS 12 KILLED AND 42 WOUNDED. EDITORIAL COMMENT IN SOVANN PHOUM WAXES ENTHUSIASTIC ENTHUSIASTIC ON THE ENEMY'S SUPPLY AND MORALE PROBLEMS STATING THAT ALLIED SUCCESSES WITHIN SVN AND IN THE BORDER OPERATIONS ARE WEAKENING THE COMMUNISTS; MOREOVER, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE CANNOT RESUPPLY VIA THE HO CHI MINH TRAIL NOR RED CHINA VIA KOMPONG SOM (SIHANOUKVILLE). THE EDITOR CONFIDENTLY REPORTS THAT VC/NVA MORALE IS LOW AND ASKS THAT THE NATION REDOUBLE ITS COURAGE AND NATIONAL ACCORD.

(E) SETH KECH KHMER (KHMER ECONOMY) MAY 5 REPORTS DESTRUCTION OF THE BRIDGE AT BANAM BY VC/NVN. ALSO REPORTS THAT ON MAY 3 THE MILITARY POST AT SRE KRASAING ATTACKED BY VC FORCES. ENEMY ATTACKS ON THE CITY OF TAKEO MAY 2-3 WITH SUBSEQUENT WITHDRAWAL OF THE COMMUNIST FORCES ALSO NOTED.

(F) SETH KECH KHMER COMMENTS THAT TWO FRENCH POLITICIANS (SCHUMANN AND DE BROGLIE) DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE REAL PROBLEMS IN CAMBODIA. THE EDITOR ALSO DENOUNCES THE PYSCHOLOGICAL WARFARE OF THE COMMUNISTS WITH THE VARIED TACTICS OF USING THE OLD 500 RIEL BILLS IN OCCUPIED AREAS AND THE SPREADING OF MALICIOUS STORIES THAT THE WHITE ELEPHANT IS DEAD.

II. MININFO COMMUNIQUE (PHNOM PENH 736) ATTACKING FRENCH POLICY OF SCHUMANN AND DE BROGLIE HAS OPENED DOOR FOR LOCAL PRESS TO CONTINUE SAME THEME. EDITORIAL IN FRENCH LANGUAGE PHNOMPENHOIS IS TITLED, "IS FRANCE SIHANOUKIST?" EDITORIAL ASKES IF FRENCH TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY WAS NOT GOAL OF DE GAULLE AND SCHUMANN

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HIMSELF WHEN THEY WERE IN LONDON TOGETHER DURING WWII? AUTHOR WHO IS KENG SARINN, DEPUTY IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, DOUBTS THAT FEW HUNDRED FRENCH LIVING IN CAMBODIA WILL BE ABLE TO MIDIFY FRENCH POSITION. HE NOTES THAT IF NVN/VC ARE VICTORIOUS, OF WHAT VALUE IS THE SIHANOUK CARD WHICH IS ALREADY LOST. IF VC/NVN SET UP PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, WHERE WILL FRENCH INTERESTS BE? FRANCE SHOULD NOT FEAR THAT BY ACCEPTING AID CAMBODIA WILL LEAP INTO THE ARMS OF DONORS. AUTHOR STATES THAT HE UNDERSTANDS THAT FRANCE CANNOT AID CAMBODIA MILITARILY AND THAT ALL THAT IS ASKED IS TO RECOGNIZE WHOM IS BEING ATTACKED BY WHOM. "CAMBODIA", EDITORIAL ENDS, "ITS CIVIL SERVANTS AND ITS ELITES WERE BROUGHT UP ON FRENCH CULTURE. THEY HAVE BUT ONE WISH: TO CONTINUE TO BE NOURISHED BY THE SAME CULTURE."

12. AKP NOTES THAT 238 CONTRIBUTERS GAVE $4,300 DURING DAY OF MAY 4 BRINGING TOTAL TO DATE OF "VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NATIONAL DEFENSE" TO $138,769.

13. BECAUSE POSSIBLE VC/NVA ATTACKS ON THE CAPITAL, VIETNAMESE INHABITANTS NOW ONLY PERMITTED TO BE ON STREETS BETWEEN HOURS 0700-1100.

14. DRIVER OF ONE OF EMBASSY'S RENTED VEHICLES RETURNED TODAY AFTER HAVING BEEN MISSING SINCE CAMBODIAN NEW YEAR, APRIL 13. DRIVER WENT TO VISIT FAMILY IN SAANG AND WAS CAPTURED BY VC/NVN WHO HAD HIS NAME ON LIST BECAUSE HE WORKED FOR EMBASSY. DESPITE PROTESTATIONS THAT HE ONLY DROVE CAR WHICH EMBASSY HAD RENTED, CHAUFFEUR AND THREE OTHERS BLINDFOLDED, TAKEN OUT TO PRE-DUG GRAVES, HAD HANDS TIED BEHIND BACKS, AND WERE TOLD TO KNEEL. WHEN SHOTS FIRED, CHAUFFEUR LUNGED INTO HOLE AND ONLY WOUNDED IN ANKLE. OTHERS KILLED. CHAUFFEUR, FOR SOME REASON, THEN TAKEN TO PRISON, FROM WHICH HE MANAGED TO ESCAPE.

15. THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED COPIES OF THREE CIRCULAR NOTES (TEXTS POUCHED) CATOLOGUING 21 REPORTS VC/NVA ATTACKS IN CAMBODIA DURING THE PERIOD APRIL 24-28.

16 IN ADDITIONAL NOTE, NUMBER 448/DGP/SV02 DATED APRIL 30, 1970, WAS PRESENTED TO THE EMBASSY PROTESTING A US/SVN AIR ATTACK ON THE RUBBER PLANTATIONS AT MIMOT ON APRIL 23 AT 1500. THE ATTACK, WHICH LASTED ONE AND ONE-HALF HOURS, CAUSED THREE KILLED, 15 WOUNDED AND SEVERELY DAMAGED THE PLANTATION PROCESSING PLANT.

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